

HJ0002

(FAV) (Support)

As a Maryland resident, practicing physician, former Eagle Scout (and father of an Eagle Scout) who advocates for human rights, I strongly urge support for HJ0002, **Supporting a Long-Term Ceasefire in Israel and Palestine** such that the General Assembly of Maryland will convey to Maryland's Congressional Delegation its support for an immediate, long-term ceasefire in Israel and occupied Palestine, the return of all hostages, and delivery of adequate humanitarian aid to the Palestinian people.

I am a Presbyterian and collaborate with Jewish, Christian, and Muslim allies in the name of peace and social justice. I have been to the West Bank and Israel multiple times as a medical volunteer, and I am strongly against the ongoing genocide in Gaza.

Maryland is the Free State, and we should stand in strong opposition to the indiscriminate slaughter of now more than 30,000 Palestinians living under occupation in Gaza, most of whom are women and children.

The ongoing genocide is against the interest of the state of Maryland, and the United States.

I respectfully urge you to stand against genocide. In the strongest possible terms, **I urge support of House Bill HJ0002.**

Thank you for your consideration,
Sincerely,

William F. Simonds, MD
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